Department of STD At Safdarjung Hospital

6706. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the date when the Department of Sexually Transmitted Disease was started in Safdarjung Hospital and also the date since when no separate Head of Department has been appointed there and the reasons therefore;

(b) whether it is a fact that due to lack of interest and negligence on the part of the present Head of Department, who is also the Head of Department of Skin, the number of patients as well as trainees from northern India arc decreasing day by day;

(c) whether funds allocated for STD Department had not been fully utilised and were diverted for skin and leprosy purposes during the last few years, if so. the break-up thereof for the last three years and for the current year;

(d) if so, what action has been taken thereon; and

(e) by when a separate Head of the Department would be appointed for the STD Department keeping in view the increasing of STD, HIV(+) and AIDS cases in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The STD Department was started in. Safdarjung hospital in 1954. Since January 1991. Dermatology, Leprology and STD constitute one department and have one head.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Family Planning Programme in Rajasthan

6707. SHRI RANJAN PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a significant number of eligible couples in the demographically critical state of Rajasthan is keen to practise contracaption but are unable to do so because of poor quality and inadequate follow up services;

(b) if so, whether the family planning programme in Rajasthan suffers from structural problems like over centralisation, absence of a marketing approach to create demand, and excessive medicalisation of the programme; and

(c) if so, what steps Government intend to take to make the family planning programme affective in Rajasthan and what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) No, Sir

(c) 100% Centrally-sponsored Family Welfare Scheme is under implementation in the State. An Action Plan is being operationalised by the State Government for promoting family planning. Under the World Bank assisted Social Safety Net Scheme, financial assistance has been provided to the State for demographically weak districts.

AIDS Awareness Campaign Through NSS

6708. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) and the WHO have launched a major awareness campaign against AIDS through the National Service Scheme; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the